

Afghan rebels deny using clusters

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Afghan rebels on Friday denied allegations by the Soviet-backed government in Kabul that they were firing deadly cluster bombs at cities. The rebel provisional government's official news agency quoted Mujahideen commanders as saying the charges were designed to justify the government's own use of lethal weapons against rebels and civilians. The commanders fighting around Kabul said Soviet Scud missiles and high-level bombing over the past several days had killed or wounded commanders, women and children. Kabul complained to the United Nations Thursday that Pakistan and the United States were supplying the rebels with missiles containing cluster bombs with delayed time fuses and anti-personnel mines. It said the rockets had a longer range than those previously used by rebels. In an interview this week, several rebel politicians in Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, denied any knowledge of the missiles.

Jordan Times

An independent news publication published by the Jordan Press Foundation

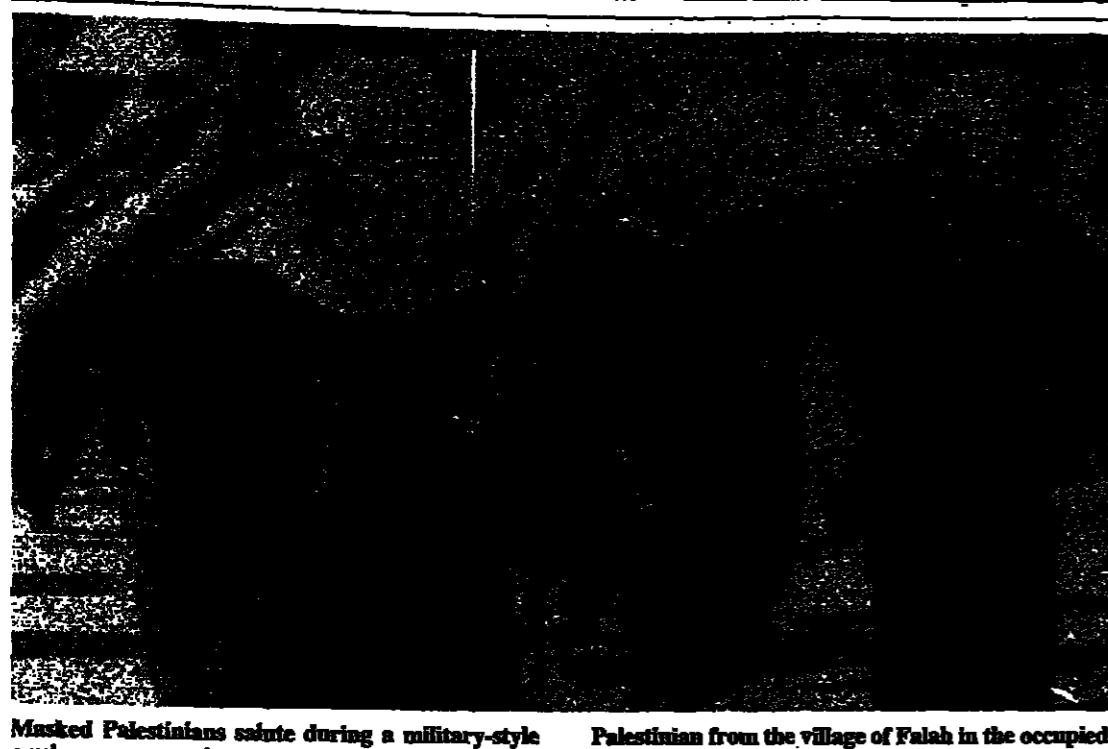
Information ministers end meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Information Ministers has stressed the need to concentrate on urgent pan-Arab issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian intifada. In a final statement issued Friday at the conclusion of their 24th ordinary session here, the ministers praised the intifada, recommended giving it priority coverage in order to foil Israel's counter media campaign. The ministers also called on Arab media to reflect the final statement issued at the conclusion of the Casablanca Arab summit which called for direct Iraq-Iran negotiations for new peace agreement. Furthermore, the ministers called on Arab media to highlight the importance of exchange of war prisoners between Iraq and Iran and the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. The ministers emphasized the need to shed light on the Lebanese crisis and to enable the Lebanese people reach national reconciliation and end foreign interference. The minister adopted a number of resolutions that would promote joint Arab work in the field of media information.

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Masked Palestinians salute during a military-style anniversary march marking the 40th day of a Palestinian from the village of Falah in the occupied West Bank was shot dead by Israeli troops.

Homes of 35 people demolished

Kidnapped Israeli gold dealer rescued from well

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli secret police rescued a kidnapped Israeli gold merchant from a half-filled well Friday, a day and a half after he was seized by masked assailants in the occupied West Bank.

Shaul Mishaniya, 47, was found after a massive search by helicopters and hundreds of soldiers. Officials said an Arab suspect captured Thursday led agents of the Shin Bet secret service to the well in the tiny village of Abush near Tulkarem.

Army officials said the well was six to seven metres deep but that the level of water was below Mishaniya's head.

Officials also said they were investigating possible criminal motives for his kidnapping.

"The motive is not known. The investigation is looking into whether it is political or criminal or both," said Renan Gissin, deputy military spokesman.

Mishaniya reportedly went to the West Bank, where few Israelis now venture because of the uprising, to collect debts owed him by Arabs. News reports said he argued with an Arab merchant before he was grabbed Wednesday night by masked men carrying knives.

Army radio Friday reported two Palestinians had been jailed without trial for a year, the first detained under new rules doubling the period from six months.

Justice Minister Dan Meridor also called for more expulsions of Palestinian activists. "It's war there. We need the punishment of expulsion, we need to apply it more," he told the radio.

U.S. to send military aid to help Colombian drug war

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States will send about \$20 million worth of military aid to Colombia, including up to eight helicopters, to help fight a war against the cocaine cartel, U.S. defense officials said Friday.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, stressed that U.S. troops would not go to Colombia but said the package would include training as well as automatic weapons and sidearms for Colombian military forces and police.

"We are taking a package somewhere in the vicinity of \$20 million, including training," said one defense official, quoted by Reuters.

Officials said the aid move was also expected to include up to eight "Huey" medium transport helicopters.

The Hueys were used during the Vietnam war and can be equipped with heavy machine guns to help protect their crews from forces of the Colombian drug cartel, which Thursday declared war on the Colombian government.

President George Bush had promised to send help to Colombia in the effort to reduce drug manufacturing and smuggling into the United States, the major

market for cocaine.

Israel connection

Israel Television said Thursday an Israeli shown on U.S. television apparently training hit squads for Colombian drug barons was a colonel in the Israeli army.

The report, also carried by Israeli newspapers, said the reserve officer heads a private security firm providing military training in several unnamed countries.

Two other senior reserve officers from the paratroops and air force jointly headed his team, the television said.

It said the colonel and his company were licensed by the Israeli defense ministry as an arms dealer.

The U.S. television network NBC Monday showed film of Hebrew-speaking men instructing a squad of uniformed fighters in a videotape made by a Colombian drug syndicate showing Israelis and South Africans apparently training the drug barons' private army.

The security company declined comment but said it had no connection with drug trafficking, Israeli television said.

The foreign ministry said in a statement Wednesday that the Israeli government had nothing to do with the affair and any private Israeli citizens involved would be investigated on suspicion of violating Israeli laws.

Israeli police have officially requested information from Colombia via Interpol, the international police network, about the alleged involvement of Israelis with the drug traffickers.

Benny Tal, head of another Israeli security company, said many Israelis who knew only the profession of combat were drawn to "not so legal" activities abroad.

"I know of dozens of places where Israelis are involved... Israelis with top security backgrounds from elite (military) units," he told army radio.

Tal said mercenaries were paid a starting salary of between \$10,000 and \$20,000 a month "but much more when the instructor gets an assassination mission, then it could be \$50,000 to \$100,000 more," he said.

Colombian police have arrested more than 10,000 people in a drugs crackdown which began Friday following the drug-related assassination of presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan.

U.S. warships said anchored off Lebanon

Soviets on Lebanon mediation mission

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Soviet envoy Gennady Tarasov crossed Beirut's dividing green line Friday for talks with rightist leaders amid reports that U.S. warships were heading closer to Lebanese waters.

Two pro-Iranian factions threatened to attack French warships already gathered in the Eastern Mediterranean if they approached the Lebanese coast.

French radio stations reported that ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, including the aircraft carrier Iowa, were anchored about 80 kilometres off Lebanon, the same distance as the French flotilla.

In Moscow, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman denied French radio reports that the Soviet missile launcher Kirov was headed to join other Soviet warships in the area.

"There are no Soviet military vessels off Lebanon's coast," spokesman Yuri Gremitskikh said. He added that the Kirov had not left its base on the Kola Peninsula and "No Soviet military vessels are heading to Lebanon's shores."

The American embassy in Beirut declined comment on the reports.

At least 760 people have been killed and more than 3,300 wounded since artillery battles erupted in mid-March when Aoun vowed to expel the estimated 33,000 Syrian soldiers from Lebanon.

France says its warships in the Eastern Mediterranean is on what it called a humanitarian mission to provide aid and help

around 7,000 French citizens living in Lebanon.

It later reduced the number of ships in the fleet, reported to be about 300 kilometres off the Lebanese coast, from eight to five.

Syria and its Lebanese allies, accusing France of bias towards Lebanon's rightists, threatened to attack the ships if they entered the Lebanese waters.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads a civilian cabinet rivaling Aoun's military government, said: "France did well by keeping its fleet away from Lebanon."

"We would rather prefer France to cancel this operation and fold this page," Hoss told reporters.

"The Lebanese will never believe that the mission of the fleet is humanitarian. France has done wrong to Lebanon... and France is supposed to rectify its mistake."

An eight-member delegation from the European Community (EC) arrived in Beirut to study needs for humanitarian aid and relief in Lebanon.

Political sources told Reuters that a three-man Algerian delegation arrived in west Beirut Thursday on a secret peace mission.

They said the team, headed President Chadli Benjedid's security adviser, Mohammad Al Taber, held talks with Hoss and other officials on the Lebanese crisis.

No other details were available and it was not known whether the delegation would also meet right-

ist leaders.

Soviet envoy Tarasov said Friday that fighting would not resolve the Lebanese conflict and it was time to give peace a chance.

Tarasov was speaking after meeting Army Commander Michel Aoun and Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir to discuss Soviet proposals to end five months of battles between Aoun's troops and Syrian forces and their Lebanese allies.

"We strongly believe there is no military solution, only political ones. We think it's high time to give peace a chance," said Tarasov, who met Aoun underneath his shell-shattered presidential palace in east Beirut.

"The ongoing conflict obviously has an adverse effect on regional stability. The Soviet Union tries actively to encourage and assist efforts to bring about peace."

Tarasov said Moscow was contacting various parties to try to reach a peaceful solution. He gave no details of the Soviet proposals.

But he said the Soviet Union fully supported the decisions of an Arab League summit in Casablanca in May which called for a ceasefire in Lebanon, an end to all tit-for-tat blockades and implementation of political reforms.

Tarasov, personal representative of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, met pro-Syrian officials in Lebanon Thursday and was due to travel to Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders.



A man and his son collect their belongings from the wreckage of their destroyed house in Beirut.

CBJ reduces dollar rate further

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Friday announced its readiness to supply commercial banks and licensed financial companies with foreign exchange at 700 fils to the U.S. dollar to be sold to customers at the rate of 705 fils effective Saturday Aug. 26, 1989.

A CBJ statement said that the move was intended to meet the needs of basic commodities, students, incoming farmers and that no commission will be charged.

The CBJ, the memorandum added, would continue "to follow up the actual changes taking place with regard to the supply and demand of foreign exchange in the various markets of the Jordanian dinar."

"The CBJ will continue to be fully interested in the dinar's stability and will eliminate market speculations so as to ultimately attain a unified and realistic exchange rate," the statement added.

The gap between the official and bank rates for

the Jordanian dinar narrowed again on Thursday as the Central Bank intervened to boost the currency.

Banks were trading the dinar at 690/735 fils to the dollar, compared to 715/735 fils Wednesday, dealers said.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 600/4/606.4 fils, down on Monday's 579.9/603.9 fils.

The dealers said the Central Bank had resumed supplying banks with dollars at the official rate.

They said the Central Bank was still offering banks dollars at 730 fils for ordinary commercial purposes but few banks were buying because dollars were cheaper at the inter-bank rate.

The Central Bank was also buying dollars from banks at 700 fils, as part of a gradual strategy to rebuild its reserves and close the gap between the official and bank rates, they added.

"We expect the dinar to improve further if the Central Bank keeps up its intervention," one dealer said.

De Klerk, Mobutu pledge peace

GOMA, Zaire (Agencies) — South African acting President F.W. de Klerk and Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko agreed at a meeting in Zaire Friday to try to salvage Angola's faltering peace accord, a communiqué said.

The joint communiqué issued at the end of almost three hours of talks in eastern Zaire said the two leaders held wide-ranging discussions on topics including "the recent delicate situation" in Angola.

"The military began jailing alleged Palestinian activists without trial for a year Friday under a measure that doubles the previous maximum allowed by law, army radio said.

It named Salem Shalalash, 25, of Sair village and Maher Faraj, 23, of Dheisheh refugee camp as the first to be imprisoned under the regulations. Previous practice was to jail suspects for renewable six month terms.

In the article he wrote that any

mountain-ringed tourist town near the Rwandan border, also discussed the independence plan for Namibia and developments in southern Africa, the communiqué said.

It said de Klerk and Mobutu "agreed the discussions were positive, opportune and constructive."

De Klerk flew back to South Africa immediately after the talks, his first with a major black African leader since taking power in 1984.

He convened an African summit in June which produced a ceasefire and he has also been mediating peace talks between the Angolan government and Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels.

Both sides accuse the other of numerous ceasefire violations.

Mobutu has been in the forefront of efforts to end Angola's 14-year-long civil war between its leftist government and right-wing rebels backed by the United States and South Africa.

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PIA plane missing with 54 aboard

ISLAMABAD (R) — A Pakistani airliner carrying 54 people disappeared in bad weather near 8,126-metre high Nanga Parbat, the westernmost peak in the Himalayas, Friday.

"We have no information yet about the fate of the plane, no information about any wreckage," a Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) official said.

Officials said the control tower at Gilgit lost radio contact with the Fokker F-27 friendship a few minutes after it took off Friday morning. It failed to arrive in Islamabad, 300 kilometres to the southwest.

Aviation sources said an air force Hercules C-130 and a heli-

copter searching for the twin turbo-prop airliner were forced to return to Islamabad by driving rain.

The terrain between Gilgit and Kashmir, a former princely state claimed by Pakistan and India, and Islamabad is almost entirely towering mountains and narrow, isolated valleys.

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An airline booking clerk said the plane carried 44 adult passengers, five children and a crew of

الجordan times

U.N. seeks top-level Iran-Iraq meeting

GENEVA (Agencies) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is trying to arrange a high-level meeting with Iran and Iraq at next month's non-aligned summit in Belgrade, U.N. sources said Friday.

Pursuing peace efforts in the Gulf, Perez de Cuellar's office has asked to meet the heads of both delegations to the summit in Belgrade and is assuming he will have separate talks at least with the two foreign ministers and possibly the presidents.

The meetings could be the first between the U.N. chief and presidents of the two neighbours since the Gulf war ceasefire of Aug. 20, 1988, and could help revive peace talks bogged down in discord over troops withdrawals and dredging a river.

"It's always useful to have meetings at the highest level," one source quoted by Reuters said. "If it would happen it would be interesting."

The secretary-general's personal envoy for the Gulf, Jan Eliasson, Friday ended two days of talks with officials from Iran and Iraq to prepare for the Sept. 4-7 triannual summit in Belgrade of the 102-member Non-Aligned Movement.

The former president of Iran, Ali Khamenei, attended the last non-aligned summit in Zimbabwe in 1986. His successor, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has met Perez de Cuellar before, but not

as president and it was not clear if he would come.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has not attended a non-aligned summit since 1979 and it was not certain if he would attend this one. "This will be clear only when he leaves Baghdad or arrives in Belgrade," one Iraqi source told Reuters.

Gulf observers say that now that the war with Iran is over he may want to attend to boost his standing on the world stage.

Foreign Ministers Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and Tareq Aziz of Iraq last talked face-to-face in April. Perez de Cuellar met them individually last month.

In preparatory meetings with Eliasson, both sides discussed "different ways to speed up the process" of implementing the United Nations peace plan contained in a Security Council ceasefire resolution, a U.N. statement said without elaborating. It described the talks as "technical."

"It has been a useful round of preparations," Eliasson said. "Very much has come up that has been discussed in earlier stages."

One issue that needs to be settled soon is extending the mandate of the U.N. truce monitoring force along the Iran-Iraq border, which expires at the end of September.

Talks have been stuck on Iraq's demand that Iran agree to clear war debris from the Shatt Al Arab waterway and Iran's refusal to discuss that issue until Iraqi troops quit some 2,600 square kilometres its soil.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Hussein Lavarasani led their delegations at the Geneva talks.

Iraq called Friday for direct peace talks with Iran under the auspices of the U.N. to help settle differences over the ceasefire agreement.

"The needed step is to start, without hesitation, genuine direct peace talks under the auspices and contribution of the U.N. secretary-general," Iraq's ruling Baath Party daily Al Thawra said.

It said direct talks, which Iran has rejected, would help "reach a common understanding for the remaining items of resolution 598 and the timing of their implementation."

"How can progress (in peace talks) be achieved if the Iranian regime has not yet shown any serious readiness to enter into real direct talks with Iraq?" it asked.

Though Resolution 598 ended eight years of fighting on Aug. 20, 1988, other provisions in the resolution including troops withdrawals and exchange of prisoners-of-war have not been respected.

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Rafsanjani wins more backing

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iran's former chief justice on Friday joined a chorus of support for the cabinet chosen by pragmatic President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani that excludes radicals.

"Next week is a fateful week, it is a week to vote for government," Ayatollah Abdul Karim Musavi Ardebili said at Friday prayer meeting in Tehran.

On Sunday parliament will start a debate on the cabinet which drops Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mofatshemi and other anti-Western hardliners in favour of technocrats expected to focus on economic revival.

The official IRNA news agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the former chief justice's remarks amounted to strong support for Rafsanjani's proposed line-up.

Ardebili said deputies would lose public support if they allowed political factionism to influence their vote.

Last week a majority of deputies petitioned Rafsanjani to keep Mofatshemi in the cabinet.

But Iran's spiritual leader Ali Khamenei later urged parliament to vote for the cabinet. Pro-government newspapers have done the same and the Tehran Times said Thursday that most deputies were now behind Rafsanjani.

The Tehran Times, usually supportive of Rafsanjani, said he would win the vote of confidence only after "a really sizzling debate" in the Majlis, or parlia-



Hashemi Rafsanjani

Israelis swing to the right

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israelis have swung to the right during the Palestinian uprising and are now less willing to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and more determined to maintain military strength, according to an opinion study published Friday.

The survey, conducted by Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, showed that more Israelis defined themselves as "hawks" and fewer as "doves".

Only 32 per cent of Israelis supported negotiations with the PLO, compared to 37 per cent in 1987, and 45 per cent opposed an international Middle East peace conference, up from 37 per cent the previous year.

In a major swing, 48 per cent said they favoured "security interests" over the rule of law compared with only 28 per cent a year earlier.

Asked the best means to prevent another war with Arab states, 38 per cent chose military strength rather than negotiations, compared with 27 per cent in 1987.

Political science professor Asher Arian, who conducted the survey, said the study explained the swing towards Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud party and away from Finance Minister Shimon Peres' Labour Party.

The number of people favouring a territorial compromise on the West Bank and Gaza Strip rose from 44 to 48 per cent, and those who would agree to a Palestinian state increased from 20 to 25 per cent during the period.

Another poll published in the mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper showed that while an overwhelming 98 per cent of Israeli Arabs favoured the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, 71 per cent said they would not want to live there.

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AMMAN: Dr. Mohammad Hidam

Dr. Youssef Al Houtari

Dr. Taysir Al Sa'di

Dr. Wael Al Dumati

Farsa pharmacy

Firdous pharmacy

Al Asema pharmacy

Naimouni pharmacy

Yacoub pharmacy

Simeon pharmacy

IBRD: Dr. Adel Matanah

Al Sharar pharmacy

ZARQA: Dr. Ziyad Hawatreh

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be moderately hot with winds northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

WEATHER

Right:

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuhr



King Hussein visits USS Elrod docked at Aqaba Port

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday visited the U.S. Navy ship USS Elrod which docked at Aqaba port Wednesday on a three-day visit. The King was welcomed by the ship's commander and crew and later made a tour of ship's different sections. King Hussein was accompanied by Their Royal

Highnesses Prince Hassan and Prince Hashem as well as the Coast Guard commander. Ships of the U.S. Navy's Middle East Force regularly call at Aqaba as part of their routine port visits to friendly states in the region. While in Aqaba officers of the ship call on military and civilian officials and participate in several social

events with local residents. The crew of the USS Elrod participated in sporting events with Jordanian military personnel and toured the ancient Nabatean city of Petra.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Thursday presents a diploma to one of the participants of a two-week workshop held at the Nuzha Community Centre in Amman. (Petra photo)

Princess Basma attends conclusion of workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Thursday attended a ceremony at the conclusion of a two-week workshop designed to raise the efficiency and improve the performance of instructors in dress shops operated by the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF).

The exhibition also displays

instructed on means of ensuring occupational safety for the dressmakers in various centres.

Princess Basma inspected the folkloric wing at the community centre where a folk exhibition displaying national and traditional costumes has been organised.

The exhibition also displays

The JSCF aims to assist in raising the standard of services provided for children and

25 participants in the workshop who came from Ma'an, Karak, Tafleah, Mafrag and Madaba regions.

The ceremony was held at the Nuzha Community Centre in Amman, which is operated by the Jordanian Save the Children Fund (JSCF) which is run by an executive committee headed by Princess Basma.

The participants received advanced theoretical and practical training in dressmaking and were

by the Amman Chamber of Commerce and QAF.

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Princess Sarvath opens exhibition on Deir Alla archaeological finds

LEIDEN (J.T.) — An exhibition shedding light on archaeological discoveries in Jordan around 800 B.C. was opened at the museum of the University of Leiden in Holland by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath.

The princess delivered a speech on the occasion underlining the historic significance of the discoveries found by a Dutch team working under the direction of Professor Henk Franken from the Leiden Institute, in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities in Amman.

Work resumed in 1976 as a joint project between the Department of Antiquities, the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University and the Department of Archaeology of the State University of Leiden, the department said.

The exhibition coincided with a symposium prepared at the same university during which further discussion focusing on the artefacts of Jordan in general and those found in the Deir Alla area in particular was held.

It added that the publication of the results of the first phase of the excavations in Deir Alla in the study of the Iron Age culture in Jordan.

The exhibition displays artefacts excavated at the Deir Alla region in the Jordan Valley with the help of the Dutch Archaeologists.

According to the Department of Antiquities in Amman the excavations were initiated under Professor Franken in 1960 and continued until 1967.

This indigenous character is reflected in some of the Iron Age pottery traditions and types which were of local development and not connected with traditions in neighbouring countries.

The inscriptions too, which were painted on thin, smooth plaster surfaces, and dated to 800 B.C., are thought to be a local variety of Aramaic writing tradition.

At the opening ceremony in Leiden, Princess Sarvath presented Professor Franken with the Jordanian Independence Medal as conferred on him by His

Highness King Hussein in recognition of his services, his remarkable achievement and his efforts to bolster Dutch-Jordanian relations.

Princess Sarvath



Princess Sarvath

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Racing against warships

LEBANON is only one step short of internationalising its conflict with the convergence of foreign warships in the Eastern Mediterranean amid threats that some of them could be attacked if they dared to approach the Lebanese coast. France has said that its fleet in the region is on a humanitarian mission while no explanation has been forthcoming from the U.S., whose Sixth Fleet ships are also reported anchored off the Lebanese coast, though at a safe distance. The Soviet Union has declared that its warships are not in the region — at least not those named in international reports. No-one seems to know what exactly the foreign warships are doing or intend to do in the Eastern Mediterranean. However, it does not appear that Paris and Washington are planning any new foray into the labyrinth of Lebanese violence. Amidst this confusing picture, optimists tend to see a glimmer of hope that the tension that engulfs the region today could herald frantic Arab as well as international moves to avert armed hostilities from breaking out.

On the other hand, the prevailing tension is the perfect recipe for an outburst of extremism which could easily drag France and/or the U.S. into the conflict, whether or not they like it. Quite simply, an extremist attack on French or American targets anywhere in the world and claimed, rightly or otherwise, by one of those underground extremist groups in Lebanon could easily invite French or American wrath on the Lebanese coast. Alarmist as it may be, the fact remains that the vision of such a threat materialising is very strong. Averting the threat is possibly one of the aims of the Soviet Union, which has sent a top-level envoy to the area in what could easily be described as a high-powered Moscow effort to talk to everyone concerned and single out common ground.

The question hangs in the air: What are we, the Arabs, doing about the situation in Lebanon? It was heartening to hear a report that an Algerian team arrived in Beirut Friday. But what remains unknown is what is the goal of the team. Is it a bid to revive the aborted Arab mission in Lebanon or to try the Algerian hand in defusing the tension before the situation gets out of hand?

By all counts, eliminating the tension should be the priority, but there are many who ask: Should it be? Isn't it better to keep the tension high with the logical hope that the foes in the Lebanese conflict would realise their folly and accept the inevitability of dialogue?

However, past experiences have shown us that logic fades into oblivion when it comes to Lebanon of the past 15 years. It is not difficult to see at least some Lebanese factions taking up "the challenge" instead of detecting the proverbial fear of God in the presence of mighty foreign warships off their coast.

The only way out of the quagmire appears to be effective international involvement through the U.N. Security Council. But no such effort will bear fruit without Arab guidance and coordination. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the Arab states to launch contacts with the international powers with a view to ensuring that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty as well as the Arab character of Lebanon are preserved no matter what the people of Lebanon are freed from the throes of violence which have raked their lives for the past 14 years.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Israel's manoeuvres in the international arena in its drive to counter the Palestinian intifada was discussed by Al Ra'i daily. The paper said that Shamil is wrong to believe that his idea of talking to Palestinians in the occupied territories could bring about a substitute for the PLO to negotiate a settlement favourable to Zionists' whims. The paper said that even those whom Shamil is talking to listen to instructions from the Palestinian leadership and aim to serve Palestinian people's interests. The paper also attacked Israel's call on Washington to stop its dialogue with the PLO in Tunis and said that it is intended to cause a split among the Palestinian people. The paper said that nothing can mislead the world public opinion about the realities in the Middle East and nothing can conceal the terrorist actions committed by the Israelis against the Arab population. Israel can do nothing to cause a split within the Palestinian ranks no matter how hard it might try to do so on the international arena, the paper added. It said that the Palestinians are determined to pursue the struggle under the PLO leadership until justice is established.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily refers in his column to a call by an Iranian newspaper to start procedures for the exchange of prisoners of war with Iraq. Mahmoud Rizawi says that it seems that Rafsanjani, the Iranian strong man is now taking more realistic steps towards the Gulf situation and could be heading for total peace with Iraq. The writer says that it is time that Tehran thought about humanitarian issues like the exchange of war prisoners and can take other steps towards settling the border issue with Iraq at a later stage. If Iraq's condition for a withdrawal of its forces is linked to Iran's acceptance of the idea of clearing the Shatt Al Arab waterway, then it is not difficult for both sides to settle the problem, says the writer. He notes that although Iran is now involved in bolstering the stand of its agents in Lebanon, Rafsanjani could be contemplating other ideas too. The exchange of prisoners, he adds, should precede all other considerations and should it materialise it could greatly improve Iran's image before the world.

Al Dostour daily dealt with the situation in Lebanon and said that the situation is now ripe for diplomatic efforts at the international level to find a lasting settlement to the whole Lebanese issue. The paper noted that the present lull in the fighting, coupled with renewed calls on the part of the Arab League for reactivating the mission of the tripartite committee in Lebanon could be optimistic signs. The present calm could open the way for the Arab League mediators to resume their peaceful mission and defuse the present tension resulting from foreign attempts to interfere, the paper added. It said that though various diplomatic efforts are welcome to help out in the peace seeking endeavour, the Arab League should be helped to resume its efforts as soon as possible to bring about a peaceful settlement to Lebanon.

Right analysis, wrong conclusion

By P. V. Vivekanand

YASSER Arafat's warning last week that Palestinian patience was running out over the snail's pace in the vicious circle which the U.S. describes as the Middle East peace process seems to have irked many Israelis, even some of those who could marginally be described as "moderate." For many, it is a new weapon to be used with its fullest might to hock away at the moderate Palestinian approach to peace efforts. Their basic contention is that the patience that Arafat is talking about relates mainly to what they see as Palestinian hopes that the U.S. will, sooner or later, "force" Israel to deliver the occupied territories on a platter to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). No Sir, I beg to differ (for whatever it is worth).

First of all, it is a safe conclusion that the mainstream Palestinian leadership, as represented by Arafat and the PLO Executive Committee, has accepted that neither the U.S. nor any other single party in world is capable of "forcing" Israel to do anything it does not want to do, at least at this point in time. The only exception is the people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip who can and are moving steadily towards making the territories totally ungovernable for the occupiers. Even for the most hardline cynics, it is clear that there is more than even indications that there has been a firm turn towards moderation in Palestinian thinking in the last one year. That should be more than encouraging enough for international diplomatic thinking, particularly American, which, I am told, considers a 20 per cent chance as good odds in trying to settle problems.

To me, the patience Arafat referred to last week is directly linked to the Palestinian posture in the U.S.-PLO dialogue; a posture of optimism and hopes that Washington would listen to the Palestinian views and realise that the acceptance of a two-state solution has sunk in deep among the Palestinians. They may not exactly be happy with it, but they have realised that it is the only feasible solution and the best that could be hoped for. But, what is not forthcoming is an American endorsement of a two-state solution, let alone acknowledgement of the right of the Palestinian people to have an independent state on their soil.

The questions that Arafat posed to the U.S. administration were very clear, though not in so many words: Why does the U.S. very studiously balk at acknowledging the Palestinian right to self-determination while on the other hand it is willing to recognise the "legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people?" Is or is not "self-determination" the fundamental pillar of the legitimate political rights of any people?

Continued refusal

So, the issue at stake is not whether or not the U.S. will force Israel to give up the occupied territories; it is simply a question of American refusal to acknowledge the Palestinian right to an independent state. It is over this refusal that the Palestinian patience is running out, particularly after Jordan's relinquishing of all territorial links with the West Bank has underlined the Palestinian identity of the occupied territories.

Adding insult to injury is the pointed circumvention by the Americans of the idea of an international conference. The Palestinians may be induced to accept that the U.S. cannot publicly recognise Palestinian right to independence as long as a final settlement to the problem is not arrived at through a proper forum based on international legitimacy. But, instead of trying to seek to set up such a forum, Washington is blindly, or perhaps conveniently, following the red herring thrown in by the Israelis in the form of the much-touted Shamir plan for Palestinian elections. What is happening to the proposal for an international conference, which is supported by an overwhelming majority of the international community? Why is the U.S. very pointedly ignoring the call and redirecting the PLO to Israel's plan for elections and autonomy and an unknown fate for the West Bank and Gaza Strip? Above all, Washington seems to think that the PLO should feel honoured that the dialogue is continuing regardless of the fact that it is getting nowhere.

So, the Palestinians have more than enough reasons to lose patience with the American game, in which the U.S. not only throws a loaded dice but also wants to be the banker and coupler rolled into one.

The alarm bell that Arafat sounded during his visit to Amman last week should have been more than clear to those Israelis who were willing to listen to it on the same wavelength. He was not

threatening to "unleash fresh furies of violence" as some Israelis argue forcibly; he was just pointing out to the reality that the deadlock in the American-PLO dialogue is playing right into the hands of hardliners who will, no doubt, gain the upper hand in due course of time if the Americans are not willing to budge from their position. The losers in the end will be those Palestinians who have accepted peaceful negotiations as an inevitability, those Arabs who support this position and those Israelis who have shown signs of willingness for territorial compromise. And the region will continue to see more and more bloodshed and a perennial state of instability.

Many may accuse me of putting a veil over the militancy with which the PLO pursued its struggle until that fateful day in Algiers in November last year when the Palestine National Council (PNC) finally accepted a two-state solution. I would like to remind them that the so-called Palestinian change of mind did not come overnight. On the contrary, it was the result of years of trying to buck a system, which only gathered more solidarity with every blow and hit back with more than what it received, thus leading to a situation when the futility of a "military option" became so pronounced that dialogue appeared as the only recourse. My interpretation of Arafat's address to the U.N. in 1974 is simple: there indeed is an olive branch, and the gun is to protect the option of the olive branch. To be sure, the message could not have been read so then, but it began crystallising with Arafat's Cairo declaration and makes very good logic today.

The Americans know better

Isn't it obvious that Arafat has staked his political future on the hope that the U.S. will reciprocate for his peace strategy by making tangible moves which he could show to his hardline opponents? It is naive to think the Americans are ignorant over this particular aspect. They should know more than anyone else that Arafat and his political moves would be up the creek without a paddle, as it could turn out to be today or tomorrow, if Washington does not step forth with courage and vision to tear away the iron screen drawn over its eyes mostly by internal political considerations.

Another argument put forth by Israel concerns the political programme recently adopted by Fatah. The programme is seen as a "slap in the face for all those who detected hopeful, if uncertain, signs of a shift towards accommodation, understanding and peace" in the Palestinian strategy pronounced late last year.

What, may I ask, do they expect? A written statement signed by every Palestinian on the face of earth that he or she accepts that Israel's U.S.-supplied military might is totally unquestionable, that the internationally recognised rights of the occupied against the occupier are not applicable in Palestine, that no-one would even think of raising an eyebrow over systematic violations of human rights and that the Palestinians should only be more than grateful for whatever the Zionist state is gracious enough to hand over even if it meant continued occupation and oppression and treatment as last-grade citizens?

Stripping and beyond

To me, that is what it means when Israel raises a hue and cries over the usage of the term "armed struggle" by the Palestinians. Are they not overlooking the elementary fact that the central fibre that holds the Palestinian leadership today would have crumbled against hardline onslaught had Fatah dropped the phrase from its political programme? An ironic remark by a Palestinian leader comes to mind: "they have already made us strip our jackets by now. What they want now is for us to take off our shirts. They will want us, before we enter the international conference (if it is ever convened), to strip to our underwear. I leave it to your imagination, gentlemen, what they would do to us inside the conference."

It is against these kinds of arguments that the mainstream PLO leadership is pursuing its moderate course. It is even more ironic when it has very little to show as a result.

As if it was not enough, the so-called moderates in Israel are raising questions over the PLO's recognition of the right of the Zionist state to exist. Well, what more evidence do they want than the very fact that the PLO has repeatedly said that it was willing to open dialogue on equal footing with Israel but it is their own leaders who are refusing to talk with the PLO on a just and fair

settlement based on international legitimacy. It is their own leaders who are using every opportunity to reaffirm their rejection of the PLO as the representative of the very people whose future would be the focus of discussion and rebuffing every PLO move to initiate dialogue.

When the "moderates" also find fault with the PLO's objection to any Palestinian discussing the Shamir plan with the Israelis, they obviously sidestep the glaring truth that the proposal is tailor-made to minimise every Palestinian aspiration to regain usurped rights. One can understand the argument if the plan did meet with the basic prerequisites; that elections be held in a free and democratic atmosphere devoid of any chance of rigging by the occupation power; that the occupation power removes itself from the scene with a very clear acceptance that the idea of elections is part of an overall process leading to a just and comprehensive settlement based on the eventual establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside the state of Israel. As long as the occupation power rejects this, with as much venom and vehemence over the basic issue of relinquishing territory as it is doing today, then can anyone be blamed for opposing any talks on a plan which bodes only ill for the occupied? Quite simply, what is there to discuss when it is made clear by the occupation power that it will not accept an independent Palestinian state, now or ever?

I do not doubt it for a second when Israel says its occupation cannot be ended by violence, for it is obvious that the strong internal and external considerations which block an all-out Israeli military campaign to stamp out the uprising will not hold if events were to reach a make-or-break level. It is very difficult to envisage any worry of consideration over international public opinion or of domestic opposition pulling the Israelis short of exercising their full military options against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories if and when the uprising hits a crescendo of violence coupled with real external political pressure on the Zionist state for a just and fair solution to the root conflict. The PLO appears to be fully aware of the strong possibilities of such an eventuality, whose outcome will be totally unpredictable. But, contrary to Israeli expectations, it would appear that it is not the awareness but the unpredictability that is more influential on PLO thinking; but with the same result — that it has accepted that violence cannot end the occupation. So, the argument that the first PLO move should be made towards accepting that violence cannot be a means to achieve its goals does not hold water simply because the acceptance is already there, if only the Israelis will seek to find it.

The second move, as demanded by Israeli "moderates," should be PLO complicity with the "legal rights of Israel as an occupier." A point seemingly well taken, but not when such "legal rights" clear the way for the harsh and oppressive practices that the occupation army applies against the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. To say the least, how can it be accepted that an Israeli soldier can "shoot to kill" with one hand and issue an identity card with the other? What is the compatibility between the two?

Arafat may or may not have appeared dramatic over his emphasis and focus on the ID cards as "discrimination" and a human rights issue; but to accuse him of "incomprehension of the world he lives in" for questioning Israel's right to issue such document is totally absurd simply because he was only showing what has made him a "survivor and a good politician." How many Nazi-issued ID cards and symbols were produced for maximum effect in the Israeli court trying "Ivan Demjanjuk"? Arafat was only borrowing a leaf from the Israeli book when he pulled out an Israeli-issued magnetic card from his pocket and waved it around for the benefit of world press and television cameras. It showed how alert he was to every avenue to press his case against the Israelis.

If the so-called moderates in Israel have any moderate view of the Palestinian struggle and its new course and goals, the natural reaction would have been an awareness that when Arafat says the PLO peace strategy is in peril it is time they themselves contribute to repair the situation. On the contrary, what we are getting is a totally negative approach to the issue. That is what is more saddening.

World War II still shadows Germans

By Mark Heinrich
Reuter

BONN — Fifty years after Hitler's Germany attacked Poland to ignite World War II, the Germans bear the legacy of a divided nation and the burden of atonement for Nazi atrocities.

Few Germans in East or West brood over the war's aftermath today as they outclass much of the world in their standard of living. Their rebuilt societies betray only traces of the tremendous destruction wrought by Hitler's failed war.

But behind the facade of industrial modernity, the conflict triggered by the invasion of Poland on Sept. 1, 1939 still shadows and inhibits East and West Germany in a myriad of ways.

Most evident is the partition of the nation into capitalist and Communist spheres, along the boundaries of the zones occupied in 1945 by the victorious Soviet and Western — U.S., British and French — war allies.

The allied presence which subjugated Nazi Germany never left.

Some 380,000 Soviet soldiers remain in East Germany to guard

what is today the front line of the Warsaw Pact military alliance. Facing them are 370,000 U.S., British and French troops in West Germany as the forward wedge of NATO.

West and East Germany have adopted radically different approaches to the issue of responsibility for the war.

West Germany rejects the idea of collective guilt for war crimes but says Germans are morally bound to atone for them, above all the murder of six million Jews.

Bonn has paid more than \$2 billion marks (\$43 billion) to victims of Nazism — mostly Jewish — throughout the world and cultivated friendly relations with Israel.

West German courts have also jailed more than 6,000 war criminals and 10,000 cases are still under investigation.

East Germany has rebuffed Western pressure to also shoulder a moral burden for the war, claiming that big capitalists and

craven non-Communist politicians ushered the Nazis into power.

The East Berlin government has paid not a cent of restitution to Jews and has never recognised Israel. However, it says it has prosecuted about 12,800 war criminals over the past 40 years.

West Germany's first chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, said four decades ago that among Bonn's most vital postwar tasks would be to mend fences with Jews, the Poles and the French.

French-West German relations are excellent today. Bonn and Paris form the twin pillars of the European Community and their close bilateral cooperation includes joint defence planning.

But Polish-West German ties remain snarled by bitterness from the war. German conservatives by legal claim to former eastern German provinces the allies awarded to Poland, and demand full minority rights for ethnic Germans still living there.

Poland rejects both demands

and believes the Germans are obliged by their wartime aggression to provide generous aid for rebuilding the Polish economy.

The chronic dispute has blocked trade deals and has prevented West German President Richard von Weizsaecker from paying a visit of reconciliation to Warsaw on the 50th anniversary of the Nazi invasion.

A more latent legacy of World War II among West Germans can be detected in the web of taboos that serve to assuage a sense of shame for war crimes and satisfy the watchful international community. Some examples:

— Germans eschew public criticism of Jews or Israel, for fear of raising the impression of unrepentant anti-Semitism.

— Anyone who says he is "proud to be German" risks being discredited as a right-wing zealot or, worse, "neo-Nazi." It follows that national feelings in West Germany is the weakest of any major industrial country.

— West Germany avoids strik-

ing a political profile abroad equal to its economic muscle to counteract the lingering Nazi-tainted stereotype of German supremacism.

The war's shadow also hangs over the military cemeteries found in almost every town of any size in West Germany. More than three million German soldiers died on the battlefield.

London hosts Islamic art exhibition



temporary Art from the Islamic World, being organised in London's Barbican Centre, under the joint patronage of Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and the Duke of Kent.

The exhibition will be formally inaugurated next month and will be opened to the public from September 15 to October 13, 1989.

"Contemporary Art from the Islamic World" is a comprehensive display comprising of more than 250 paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints and ceramics drawn from over 1,000 works in the permanent collection of Jordan's National Art Gallery in Amman, and put together over the last two decades by its President, Her Royal Highness Prince

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New drug offers hope against crippling disease

By Clare Pedrick

NEW YORK — American scientists say they have discovered a drug which can combat River Blindness — one of the most devastating diseases in the developing world.

Company officials at Merck & Co., the New Jersey pharmaceuticals group which developed the drug, have pledged to provide it free of charge to governments and voluntary agencies able to oversee its administration.

Called Mectizan, the pharmaceutical comes in tablet form and need only be taken in a single dose once a year. Scientists claim its discovery represents a major breakthrough in the treatment of onchocerciasis, one of the leading causes of blindness in the developing world.

Commonly known as River Blindness, the parasitic disease is transmitted by the black fly, which breeds near fast-flowing water. World Health Organisation (WHO) officials estimate that 350,000 people have already been totally blinded as a result of the illness. A further eighteen million people have been seriously affected by the parasite, suffering from impaired vision, chronic dermatitis and disfiguring skin lesions. As many as 85 million people living in areas where the black fly breeds stand a real risk of being infected with the disease at some time in the future, say health officials.

"River Blindness does not kill, but it is one of the most terrible of all the tropical diseases because its symptoms are so devastating," said public health expert Dr. Bruce Dull, who has been to West Africa to monitor the effects of the new drug. "The parasite is transmitted to a person as infected larvae, which grow into adult worms up to 26 inches long. They live for ten to twelve years, usually coiled in clumps under the skin.

"The female adult worms produce more larvae, called microfilariae, which are released in their hundreds of thousands several times a year," he added. "These then travel through the body and invade a number of organs, particularly the skin and the eyes. Gradually, the skin develops a severe form of dermatitis, with tremendous itching, so that people are unable to sleep or function normally. Over a period of years the microscopic worms cause a chronic inflammation of

the cornea, lens and retina of the eye, producing scarring, and eventually blindness."

River Blindness is currently endemic in some 35 developing countries, mainly in West and Central Africa — especially in the Volta River basin — in certain areas of Central and South America, and in Yemen in the Middle East.

In areas where the black fly is prevalent the disease has blinded up to 15 per cent of the population, according to WHO figures. "Most people blinded by the disease tend to be middle aged or older because the illness is a chronic one, though sometimes blindness or impaired vision can be found in young adults or adolescents," said Dr. Dull. In three Ghanaian villages visited by health officials, sixty per cent of the population was found to be blind or partially blind.

Dr. Dull, an expert in epidemics based in Atlanta, Georgia, is one of six top medics drafted onto a special committee to set up guidelines for the distribution of the new drug and assess applications from governments and voluntary agencies. The WHO is lending on-the-spot assistance to check that applicants are in a position to distribute the Mectizan and monitor its use, and is also offering help where necessary to arrange funding.

So far, around 100,000 people have been treated, says Dr. Dull. Fifteen programmes, which will treat a total of 350,000 people in 22 different countries have already been cleared, and Dull says he is hoping that more applications will follow.

"We want to urge governments, as well as non-governmental organisations and voluntary agencies to make requests for the drug, and I am pleased to say that more and more are doing so," he said. "A programme like this takes some time to get under way but Merck has promised to make the drug available free of charge for as long as it is needed.

"The good thing about Mectizan is that within hours or days of receiving it the symptoms — especially the terrible itching — disappear," he added. "People are so relieved that when it comes to re-treatment the following year there is a tremendous demand."

Another factor contributing to Mectizan's increasing acceptance among communities in developing countries is its absence of any serious side-effects, say doctors.

"For that reason, it's hard to talk about eradication," he added. "What we can say is that there is a good chance the disease could be reduced to a point where it is tolerable and insignificant as a public health problem."

For victims already in the advanced stages of the disease, Mectizan can offer little hope, say doctors. "Unfortunately, people don't get their sight back," said Dr. Dull. "What we have had, however, are reports from people with impaired vision saying they see better in limited light after taking the treatment."

"As a doctor, it has been very gratifying to see people's response to the treatment," he added. "When I was in West Africa I had patients come back to tell me that it was the first time in months or even years that they had been able to sleep because they no longer had the terrible itching."

A hope shared by scientists and health officials alike is that the drug will, in time, be able to replace the massive black fly spraying programme set up in West Africa 14 years ago.

The scheme has produced notable successes in controlling the parasite-carrying insect, but officials say it could never promise anything more than a temporary respite to the River Blindness problem. The spraying is highly expensive, damaging to the environment and of limited effect as a long term solution. Scientists say that with time, the black fly would almost certainly have evolved a strain resistant to the sprayed pesticides.

— World News Link.

David Hurst

By Jacqueline Trescott
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Actually, David Hurst balked at playing the mad creative genius Ezra Pound. But it wasn't because this gay-hated son of Austrian Jews killed in a Nazi concentration camp thought playing the avowed fascist and anti-Semitic was unconscionable.

"I didn't think I was right for the role," he says slowly. Hurst is bewildered by the question of his attraction to the script, which contains the odious language and ideas of Pound's World War II broadcasts on Italian radio attacking Jews. "It's a good part," he says.

Hard lobbying by the author and director of "Incommunicado," which started at the Wilma Theatre in Philadelphia and is now at the Kennedy Centre's Terrace Theater, eased his main concern, which dealt with the physical differences between himself and Pound. They told him that the actor Peter O'Toole didn't resemble Lawrence of Arabia, so the short, portly Hurst shouldn't worry about portraying the man, Idaho-born poet.

As for any possible connection between his personal history and this artistic choice, he doesn't want to discuss it. He declines, in fact, to talk about anything in his life before he went from a World War II refugee camp in Northern Ireland into the British Army.

Talking about the horrors of one's wartime experiences "used to be quite fashionable in the '50s and '60s," he said, "but I don't like to talk about it. It could get you an extra lunch or an extra 'Isn't he an interesting person' type of thing or 'Oh, isn't it sad what happened to your parents and other relatives.' It was worth something. Well, I don't feel the same way."

So Hurst, 63, turns aside such inquiries, choosing instead to concentrate on his re-creation in a strenuous two hours of the world of the villain. "It exposes racism through playing this part. I really don't want it printed that I am Jewish. It is unnecessary. I suppose I am a little like Spinoza. I don't believe in the chosen race, especially not now with what goes on in Israel."

"I am not a better actor because I am a Jew and what is sort of intimated is — all right, now I'll say it. Statements about being

racist in other ways," he says. "And Thomas put the line in there no purpose. In the second act when I say to the black

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But in the end, given just the slender chapter of Pound's life that the playwright Tom Dulack has illuminated, Hurst says the play is more about racism and the audience. "There is a respectful silence about the question of anti-Semitism. It is not fashionable anymore to be an anti-Semite. It is still quite fashionable to be a racist in other ways," he says.

"And Thomas put the line in there no purpose. In the second act when I say to the black

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

JCCC extends duration of national fair

AMMAN (Petra) — A national industrial fair which opened at Marj Al Hamam Aug. 10 will remain open until Saturday Aug. 26, according to a decision by the Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC). A statement said the two-week fair, which was scheduled to have ended Thursday, was extended for two more days to allow additional number of visitors to see the national products on display. His Majesty King Hussein opened the fair, the first of its kind for national products, which attracted thousands of Jordanians and visitors.

World Bank cuts off loans to Kabul

WASHINGTON (AP) — World Bank loans to Afghanistan have been cut off because the government has paid nothing on its old debts for six months, bank spokesman Peter Riddleberger has said. Afghanistan has fallen behind in its payments on \$79.2 million of old debts to the bank. The bank's rules require the cutoff when the arrears pile up for six months. As one of the world's poorest countries, Afghanistan borrowed from the World Bank group's International Development Association (IDA). The loans were made at less than one per cent interest a year, with as long as 30 years to repay. Money for such loans comes from direct contributions by more than 30 donor countries, with the largest contribution made by the United States. Afghanistan is the first country to be cut off from this fund.

Soviets announce huge gas find

OSLO (R) — The Soviet Union may have made a major gas find in the strategically vital Barents Sea, scene of costly but fruitless Arctic oil exploration in the last few years, a top Soviet oil ministry official has said. He refused to confirm earlier reports that the field in the Soviet sector of the Arctic waters could be the world's biggest offshore field. "The find could be many times bigger than another one they made further south, of some 300 million cubic metres," he said. The Soviet Union and Norway have been exploring the Barents since the early 1980s. Geologists say the Barents may contain some of the world's last great untapped petroleum reserves.

Paris gives Tunis big financial aid

TUNIS (R) — France has granted financial aid to Tunisia totalling 1.06 billion French francs (\$168 million). French Economy Minister Pierre Beregovoy has said. He told a news conference that he and Tunisian Finance Minister Mohammad Bhaouuchi had signed four financial aid accords and a fifth for the supply of 50,000 tonnes of cereals. He said that for the first time the accords included a line of credit of 100 million French francs (\$16 million) to promote French investments in Tunisia. The two countries had decided to revise their 1972 investment agreement to offer greater incentives and promote the establishment of French enterprises and joint ventures in Tunisia, he said. The volume of French investments in Tunisia had declined in recent years, he said.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

A leading company is looking for an executive secretary. Applicants should have excellent command of the English language, typing, business correspondence and other office management skills.

Applications to be sent in confidence to P.O. Box 921020 (Amman) including a cover letter, detailed C.V. and recent photo.



The trading maelstrom on the New York Stock Exchange floor Thursday.

Dow Jones average breaks record set two years ago

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Stock market analysts say the risk of a financial meltdown is far lower now than it was two years ago, the last time the Dow Jones industrial average was in record territory.

A 56.53-point leap in the Dow Jones average Thursday carried it to 2,734.64, surpassing the record of 2,722.42 that was set precisely two years ago Friday.

The 1987 peak was the start of a short but severe bear market that culminated in the worst day in Wall Street history, the 508-point plunge in the Dow Jones industrials on Oct. 19, 1987.

Evidence of that debacle was hard to find Thursday.

"The quote of the day is something like: What crash?" said Robert Brusca, chief economist of Nikko Securities Co. International Inc., the New York arm of a Japanese brokerage firm.

Supporting the stock market in 1989 are a healthy dollar, relatively low interest rates and optimism that the economy will manage to steer a middle course between recession and high inflation.

Most of all, there is no speculative bubble ready to be popped. Stock prices are far lower in relation to underlying company profits than they were two years ago, said Lawrence Kudlow, chief economist at Bear, Stearns and Co.

"Fundamentally this is a great

expression of confidence in the whole U.S. economic outlook," Kudlow said. "We keep throwing negatives at the market and they don't stick."

Added David Jones, chief economist at the brokerage firm Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., "Essentially the stock market is telling us that a soft landing is in store for the economy, and that's exactly the slowdown you need to keep inflation from accelerating."

While some other strategists are more skeptical about the economy's health, a market rally can sometimes feed on itself regardless of fundamental factors.

"The worst thing that can happen to an institutional money manager is to sit there with a pile of cash and watch the market take off with out him. It's a buying panic," said Lawrence Helfand, managing director for Rodman and Renshaw Inc.

Thursday's gain was the second-biggest of the year, and it came in the heaviest trading since mid-June, a good sign for the market. Volume on the New York Exchange totalled 225.52 million shares.

There was no economic news

Thursday to account for the big jump. Bonds were up slightly and the dollar edged higher.

The market's going up just on its own. When you call around, there's no reason. It just went up," Brusca said.

From its low point at the close of Black Monday two years ago to its close Thursday, the Dow Jones industrial average, which represents the stock of 30 major companies, rose 57 per cent.

"While nobody's paid much attention to it, it's two of the strongest years, back to back, that we've had," Helfand said.

"People are frantically throwing money at stocks," said Alfred Goldman, A.G. Edward's director of technical research.

In the broader market, advancing issues stamped declines by 1,187 to 353.

Many analysts said that the importance of achieving a new closing high may be exaggerated because other market indexes, including the Standard and Poor's 500, have already hit new highs.

Looking ahead, Goldman said the market's follow-up performance might disappoint some investors. "Classically, when you make a new all-time high on the market, the upside is very limited, maybe half a day."

Analyst Robert Walberg of MMS International said that Thursday's rally should burn in money that had been sidelined, but "it's not straight up from here. But I think we're going steadily higher probably into the first quarter of next year."

"We had a crash last time because the market was significantly overvalued and that's just not the case right now," says Abby Joseph Cohen, senior investment strategist for Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.

Some observers say little has changed since the 1987 crash and another financial bloodbath is possible.

Traders said that rampant takeover speculation was a big part of the rally Thursday.

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT and UNFURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Two flats for rent one of them is furnished while the other is unfurnished. Each consists of 2 bedrooms, salon and dining room with central heating and glassed-in verandas and telephone.

The two flats are part of a two-storey villa. Location: the Seventh Circle behind Al Waha Stores.

For further details please call 812894 Amman.

DELUXE FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

2 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms including a bar, television and video. Dining room, American kitchen, 2 bathrooms, telephone and central heating.

Yearly rent: JD 4,000.

Location: 7th Circle.

Please call 687823, 667042.

CAR FOR SALE (DUTY UNPAID)

1982 Mercedes Benz 230, green colour, 110,000 km mileage. Excellent condition.

Please telephone: 812397

WANTED FOR RENT

Embassy needs one villa, 3 bedrooms, spacious living room, dining room, garage and garden, located between the 2nd and 5th Circles, Jabal Amman.

Contact Mme Afaf at Tel. 645161 or 643421

Y.W.C.A. - AMMAN PIANO ACCOMPANIST REQUIRED (NOT LESS THAN GRADE 8 OR EQUIVALENT)

To accompany the Y.W.C.A. Choir every Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. starting August 29, 1989 through December 14, 1989.

Fees depend on qualifications.

For auditions please call Tel. No. 641119, 641793, 655475.

Y.W.C.A. - AMMAN CHOIR SINGING

The Y.W.C.A. - Amman is glad to invite male and female singers to join its 4-Voice Choir in preparation for the Annual Christmas Concert that will be held between December 8 - 14, 1989.

All those interested are welcome to call on the Y.W.C.A., 3rd Circle, on Tuesday August 29, 1989, at 7:30 p.m.

Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 10:00.

Knowledge of music is an asset.

For registration please call the Y.W.C.A. on Tel. No. 641119, 641793, 655475.

Come over it will be fun, and you will meet a lot of people.

FOR RENT

Luxury furnished apt. area 350m² consisting of three bedrooms, two salons, 3 balconies, separate telephone and central heating.

Location: In front of the American School gate. Between Seventh and Eighth Circles.

Contact tel: 842428, 813249 - Amman

SECRETARIES NEEDED

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS & CONTRACTORS (MEC) IS LOOKING FOR:

TWO SECRETARIES - EXPERIENCE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE YEARS IS ESSENTIAL: FLUENCY IN ENGLISH IS A MUST.

WORKING TIME: 8:30 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

PLEASE CALL TEL. NO. 622046 IMMEDIATELY.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, August 24, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	600.4	606.4
Pound Sterling	328.1	347.5
Deutschmark	305.5	308.5
Swiss franc	334.4	337.9
French franc	90.6	91.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	417.7	421.3
Dutch guilder	271.1	273.8
Swedish crown	90.5	91.4
Italian lira (for 100)	42.7	43.1
Belgian franc (for 100)	146.8	148.3

CONCORD
Kevin Costner
Susan Sarandon
BULL DURHAM
Show: 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30,
10:30

FICTION
Tom Cruise
in
COCKTAIL
5 shows daily
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30,
10:30

PLAZA
THE BEACH GIRLS
12:30 - 3:30 - 5
6:30 - 8:30 - 10:30

British firm buys Holiday Inns

LONDON (R) — British drinks and leisure group BASS PLC said Thursday it was buying the Holiday Inn chain in North America for \$1.98 billion in a deal that will make it the world's biggest hotel operator.

BASS, Britain's biggest brewer, said it had signed a conditional agreement to buy the Holiday Inn in the United States, Canada and Mexico after acquiring the U.S. chain's overseas businesses last year.

"The proposed acquisition makes BASS the owner of the largest hotel chain in the world and represents a substantial move forward in the BASS strategy of becoming international in each of its core businesses," BASS chairman Ian Prosser said.

Holiday Inn accounts for 10 per cent of total rooms in the United States, the world's largest hotel market.

The move by BASS is the latest in a series of major U.S. takeovers by British firms, led by the 1988 acquisition of food group Pillsbury Co. by BASS rivals Grand Metropolitan PLC for \$5.7 billion.

There were 63 British acquisitions of U.S. companies worth a total of \$9.5 billion in the first half of 1989.

The businesses being acquired by BASS include the Holiday Inn

trademarks, the franchise system for 1,268 hotels with 234,000 rooms, and a hotel management business of 121 hotels.

BASS, whose interests in Britain in addition to brewing include Toby Inns, Crest Hotels, Holiday Inns, Pontins' holiday camps and the Corals bookmaking chain, is funding the acquisition through a mixture of new shares and debt.

Payment will be made in the form of \$125 million in new BASS ordinary shares and refinancing of certain debt in Holiday Corp.; Holiday Inns' parent company, amounting to \$1.9 billion.

BASS said the acquisition will

be carried out by a merger between a wholly owned subsidiary of BASS and Holiday Corp.

In May 1988, BASS acquired the Holiday Inn businesses outside North America and 13 hotels in the United States for \$475 million. Holiday Inns International was formed as a BASS subsidiary to manage the assets.

As well as running Holiday Inns from Casablanca to Peking, BASS has a hotel chain in Spanish holiday resorts.

BASS said the net assets of Holiday Corp. being acquired were about \$560 million at May 26, 1989, with operating profits of \$133 million for the year to that date.

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Aug. 19-23	Aug. 13-16
Daily average	JD 1,644,299	JD 914,082
Total volume	JD 8,221,498	JD 2,210,831
Total shares	4,291,741	2,501,501
No. of contracts	4,469	
Sectoral trading:		
Industrial	JD 3,820,568	JD 2,838,936
Financial	(46.5%)	

SPORTS IN BRIEF

FORMER CHAMPION DOKES STOPS WATSON: Former heavyweight champion Michael Dokes, hoping for a shot at Mike Tyson, stopped Wesley Watson at 2:25 of the third round of their scheduled 10-rounders Thursday night in New York. Dokes, the one-time World Boxing Association champion, knocked Watson through the ropes and out of the ring with a left hook to the body. Referee Arthur Mercante Sr. promptly stopped the bout. Tyson is currently the undisputed heavyweight champ. "The little fight will come sooner than anyone expects," said Marty Cohen, Dokes' 92-year-old manager. "There are only two fighters out there for Tyson — Evander Holyfield and my guy." It seems D.K. (Don King, Tyson's promoter) doesn't want Holyfield. Money isn't the big factor for me. I started by asking for \$3 million dollars when I talked to King, but I'm willing to negotiate. (AP)

CONNORS SENT TO DEFEAT BY COURIER: Jimmy Connors, a last-minute replacement for third-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden, was beaten Thursday by 19-year-old Jim Courier 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the first round of the \$154,000 Challenge Cup tennis tournament in Jericho, New York. Edberg, ranked third in the world, withdrew from the tournament because of a severe case of hives, according to tournament director Wendy Parr, who added that Edberg was bed-ridden because of the rash. A spokesman for Edberg said the Swede should be ready to play in the U.S. Open, which starts Monday. Wimbledon champion Boris Becker pulled out of this tournament on Wednesday with a sore back. Connors, who turns 37 next week, was erratic against Courier, ranked 34th. (R)

ALLEN MOVES TO WEST HAM: Queen's Park Rangers mid-fielder Martin Allen moved to West Ham Thursday, five months after a public dispute with his club manager, Trevor Francis. The deal also appeared to clear the way for the transfer of another player, England under-21 star Paul Ince, from West Ham to Manchester United for two million pounds sterling. West Ham manager Lou Macari announced Allen's transfer, saying he paid 660,000 pounds (\$1,22,000) for the former England under-21 player. (R)

DOUBLE-AMPUTEE FAILS TO SWIM ENGLISH CHANNEL: A double-amputee from West Germany failed Wednesday in an attempt to become the first handicapped woman to swim across the English Channel, according to a television crewman aboard the escort boat. Lucyna Krajewaska, 27, of Dortmund, West Germany, began her swim from Shakespeare Beach at 4:30 a.m. (0330 GMT) in good weather conditions, and was expected to be in the water for at least 10 hours, said Audrey Scott, secretary of the Channel Swimmers Association. She gave up the effort at 1423 GMT. Tomas Bramo, who works for first Television in Cologne, said by telephone, Ms. Krajewaska was not strong enough to swim against the tide which began pushing her back out to sea when it changed with four miles to go at 1400 GMT, Bramo said. (AP)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

LEND SOME ENCOURAGEMENT

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ A Q J 5
Q 9 3
J 10 9 3
♦ 6 5

WEST
♦ 9 7 3
8 7 4
Q 8 5
♦ J 10 9 8
SOUTH
♦ K 10 4
10 6 2
A 4
♦ A K Q 7 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

There is no need to panic just because there is a weak spot in your holding which might jeopardize your contract. The opponents might be unaware that they have to redirect their area of attack—especially if you help them in their belief.

In a recent team match, North-South reached a reasonable contract of three no trump at both tables. At each, North used the Stayman convention to check on a possible 4-4 spade fit.

At both tables West led the jack of clubs. One declarer, worried by his heart weakness, took his three high clubs immediately in the hope that the suit would break. When he now had to surrender a club to set up his long card, West had no trouble finding the heart shift—down one.

At the second table, declarer realized that, if West held the jack of hearts, the defenders couldn't effectively attack that suit. And also, if West did not know too much about the lie of the cards, a heart shift at trick two would be difficult to find. So declarer allowed West's jack of clubs to win the first trick, carefully following suit with the seven.

Look at the situation from West's point of view. The two of clubs had not appeared, so it looked as if his partner was signalling encouragement. With nothing to guide him, West continued with clubs, and when East followed to the second club, declarer had nine fast tricks—four in each black suit and the ace of diamonds.

What should you do in a pair event? Both the percentages and the fact that West chose a club lead suggest that the suit won't break, so we would hold up at that form of the game as well.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1989 YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Emotions can heat up today when Uranus takes over. Temper may become aroused causing many to cross the line of discipline and strike out verbally.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You may be eager for personal freedom. Consider others close to you in planning your day. It may be necessary to compromise.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Give young people a supportive attitude. Show them how you gain recognition from what they do, rather than what you own or wear.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) This is one of those days when you prefer to be free. Do something different. The evening is a prime time for fun.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may have a detached view of the world today, preferring to be a free spirit. Control nervous instability and be willing to share.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are fascinated by eccentric people. Reject dubious information. A grumbling relative may have to be held in check.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Cleaning up someone else's errors

from the past makes it hard to get on with your future. Listen to your inner self.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Never speculate on failure, but remain positive and on a steady forward path. Exercise greater self-discipline.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Education can make you a shareholder to your own future. Separate fact from fancy before you decide what you want to do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Some recent moodiness gives way to a brighter outlook. It is hard to let go of your youth to another when you realize freedom.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You don't want to submit to conventional routines today. Temper can get out of hand if you are emotionally aroused.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be discreet in personal affairs. Give others the same freedom that you want for yourself. Don't be too generous.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Some erratic behavior at the forefront will have you wondering what is causing all the fuss. Others expect more than you can give.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

BANANAS
ON SPECIAL
THIS WEEK!

"With all the weird stuff they spray on fruit these days, something freaky like this was bound to happen!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME
by Henry Arnold and Bob Lee

We have some nice
scrabbled tonight.

AMOFY

CUVOH

TEABED

YAARTS

Now arrange the circled letters to
form the surprise answer, as sug-
gested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A FOR

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: ARDOR CHAIR BLING IMPUGN

Answer: That stony gofer left the caddie this—
HOLDING THE BAG

Appeal can be made after year, but 'no guarantees' — Giamatti

Pete Rose is banned for life

NEW YORK (R) — Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose was banned from baseball for life Thursday but continued to deny that he had bet on baseball games.

Baseball commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti said a news conference that Rose had accepted a settlement to their six-month dispute under which he accepted the lifetime ban without admitting or denying the gambling allegations.

He noted that baseball rules permitted Rose to apply for reinstatement after one year and that he would consider such an application with an open mind.

"There is no deal for reinstatement. One must wait a year

before one must re-apply for reinstatement," he said.

Rose, who as a player became a legend by amassing a record 4,256 base hits in his career, indicated at a news conference in Cincinnati that he expected to be reinstated before long.

"I've made some mistakes, and I think I'm being punished for those mistakes. However, the settlement is fair," he said.

Rose, 48, declined to specify mistakes but insisted: "regardless

of what the commissioner said today, I did not bet on baseball."

Giamatti said the settlement called for Rose to accept his punishment without a formal ruling on the gambling charges.

However, asked if he was satisfied that Rose had bet on baseball games, he replied: "I am convinced that he bet on baseball, yes."

Giamatti responded to another question on whether the gambling involved his own team by noting that Rose had not officially disputed a report which said the illegal bets had included games played by the Cincinnati Reds.

The commissioner said Rose

had not challenged the report in a hearing and therefore he had no reason to doubt it.

Giamatti told another questioner there was no suggestion that Rose may have influenced the outcome of games involving Cincinnati to win games.

"I know of no evidence to show that Rose bet against the Reds," he said.

"It is the covert act of wagering which is the issue," he added.

Giamatti acknowledged that the affair, resembling the "Black Sox" scandal in which several Chicago White Sox players were bribed to throw the 1919 world series against the Cincinnati Reds, had damaged the game.

"Such charges could not and must never be ignored," Giamatti said.

Deputy commissioner Jay Vincent said the gambling issue would have to be addressed before Rose could be reinstated.

"Under baseball rules he may re-apply after one year. However, we will not accept a document saying he did not bet on baseball," Vincent said.

Giamatti said resolution of the bitter dispute became possible when Rose made an approach to him indicating he wanted to end the matter. This included termination of a law suit filed by Rose's lawyers to prevent the commissioner from holding a

bearing into the charges.

Rose, who retired as a player in 1986, had been manager of the Reds since 1984, part of the time as player-manager.

His lawyers decided to accept a settlement with the commissioner after a U.S. district court judge in Ohio ruled that Rose's suit against the commissioner alleging that he had prejudged the issue should be heard in a federal court rather than a state court.

Federal courts have traditionally upheld the right of major league baseball to administer its own affairs while Rose, who already won two skirmishes in state courts in Ohio where he was local hero.

Princess Haya ranks second

Syrian wins equestrian show

By Mun'em Fakhoury
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Under the patronage of Prince Raed Ibn Zaid, the equestrian Jordan national team played the Syrian army team Friday at the Arabian Horse Club.

In this sporting event, which was held at the invitation of the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation, Radwan Qassar of Syria won the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel trophy for securing the first position. Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Al Hussein ranked second while Hani Bisharat came in third.

Princess Haya could have easily taken the lead, had it not been for the slight mistakes she made in the first round.

At the end of the tournament, trophies and rosettes were presented to the winners by the prince, vice-president of the Syrian Equestrian Federation, Colonel Mohammad Ghazi Al Samari, Jordan Equestrian Federation President Major Salem Al Turk and Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel General Manager Majed Khalil.

Princess Haya congratulated Syrian horse rider Radwan Qassar

who beat Hani Bisharat during the match which took place in the equestrian tournament Friday. Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel General Manager Majed Khalil.

Representing Syria were: Radwan Qassar, Yaser Al-Sharif, Ahmad Al-Ali and Anas Bonokji.

Representing Jordan are: Princess Haya, Hani Bisharat, Steve Jakob and Karla Naser.

Attending the event were Prince Majida, members of the Jordanian and foreign diplomatic corps and other horse amateurs.

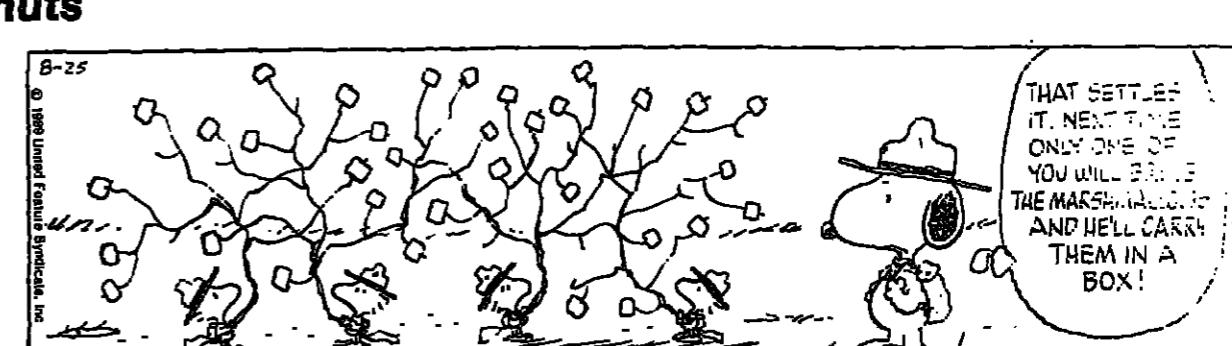
The tournament was sponsored by the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.

PASSPORT LOST

I. Abdul Mannan, Abdul Aziz, notifies the loss of my Bangladeshi passport No. F-106304 issued at Comilla, BANGLADESH on 27th Nov. 1985.

If anyone finds it, may please contact Tel. No. 659922 or the nearest police station.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



1 JUNE 1989
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Mazowiecki seeks urgent U.S. help

WARSAW (R) — Poland's new prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, appealed Friday for rapid aid from the United States to help solve his country's pressing economic problems.

Mazowiecki, a senior advisor to the Solidarity trade union, made the plea to U.S. Senator Robert Dole during talks in Warsaw one day after he became the first non-Communist prime minister in Eastern Europe for more than 40 years.

"He asked that we carry to the president, (George Bush), that... he who helps early helps twice (as much)," Dole, the Senate's Republican Party leader, told reporters in the council of ministers, the government's headquarters.

"In other words, this is very important now to keep up the momentum and let the Polish people see some change," Dole said.

Mazowiecki said Thursday he wanted aid from abroad to help tackle runaway inflation, a \$39-billion debt and growing shortages.

"Poland's friends cannot wait until we start drowning," Mazowiecki told parliament just before overwhelmingly elected him into office Thursday.

Doyle, the minority leader in the U.S. Senate, said the United States was going to send in a team of experts to determine Poland's most urgent needs.

He did not specify what kind of aid Mazowiecki had asked for nor

whether Washington intended to give more money to Poland now than it had a Solidarity prime minister.

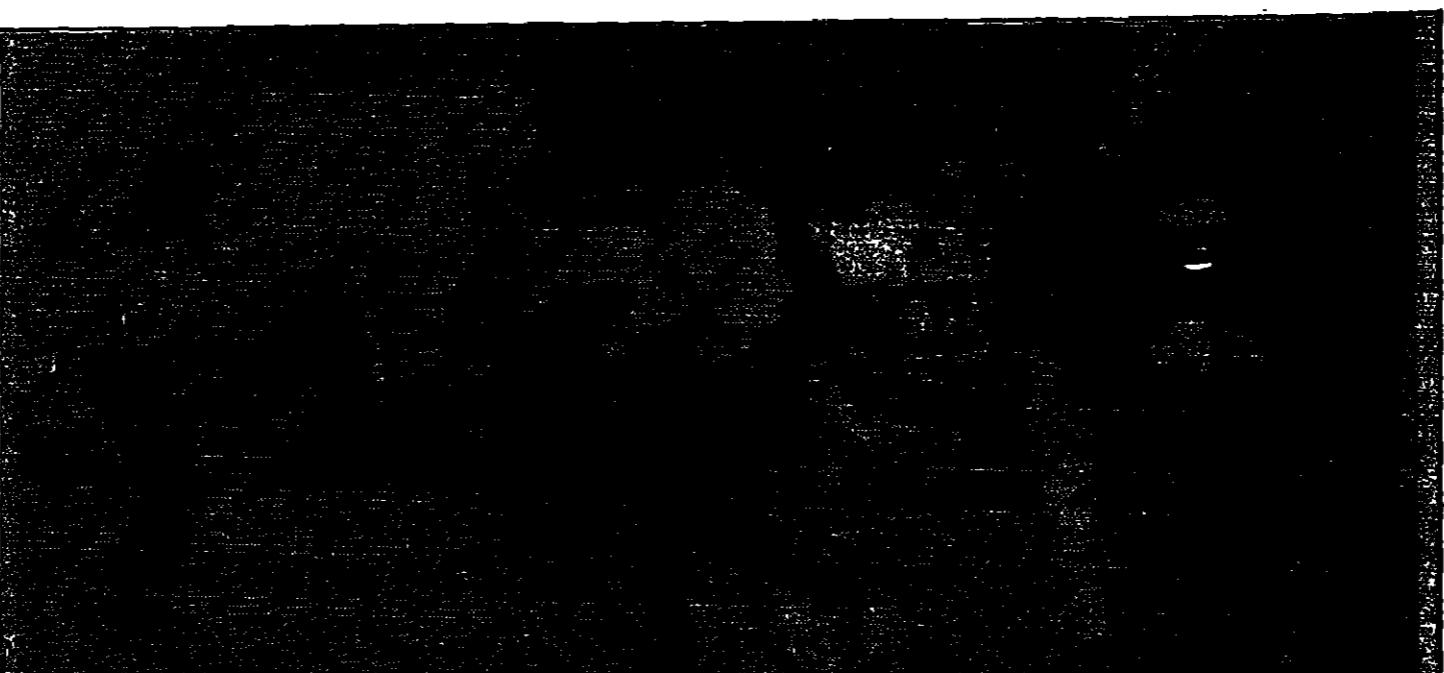
"The president has already laid out a system which will provide (Poland with help), as we assist through technical assistance and other means. We assist in the basic economic changes that are going to make Poland more attractive to foreign investment," Dole said.

Bush pledged during a visit to Poland in July to provide \$119 million in economic aid. Congress will next month consider legislation that would grant the aid and several key lawmakers have said they would like to increase the amount.

Bush said Thursday he would support Mazowiecki's political and economic reforms.

"Obviously we do have a budget deficit at home. Then we will provide aid as we can, when we can, but there is already a very significant programme underway," Dole said.

Mazowiecki has made economic reform an urgent priority and said he may call a referendum to ask Poles if they are ready to accept austerity measures. He plans radical reforms such as boosting the private sector



Students hurling stones at a fire truck in Athlone, near Cape Town, while a barricade made of burning tyres blazes nearby during an intensifying series of protest linked to the elections scheduled for Sept. 6.

Police open fire in Cape Town

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa's non-police wounded at least three high school students Friday when they opened fire on young people burning car tyres barricades in a Cape Town suburb, the students said.

The police fired shotguns and teargas at the students in the coloured (mixed-race) Cape Town suburb of Mitchell's Plain. The wounded students were aged between 17 and 19.

"We were on our way home from school when the police came and started shooting tear gas and shotguns," said Eugene Consul, 18, who was hit in the face, arm and hand.

Schoolchildren burned barricades and stoned cars in a fifth successive day of anti-apartheid protest in Cape Town's coloured and black townships, the focus of

an upsurge in opposition to white rule.

Piles of car tyres burned outside at least three schools in Mitchell's Plain and roads were littered with stone, most of them thrown inside school grounds.

Police dashed from one incident to another in yellow trucks with wire mesh over the windows.

The youngest of the three wounded, 17-year-old Garry Gordon, shook uncontrollably as he described how police opened fire.

"The police pulled up in their trucks. They jumped out and started shooting straight away. They did not give any warning," Gordon said.

He was treated in a local surgery for pellet wounds in the face, stomach and hands.

The third injured youth, Aziz

Davids, 19, was hit in the left eye. Witnesses said police opened fire after pupils at the Cedars High School set up a burning car tyre barricade on a road next to the building.

The movement denies Vlok's charges that it wants to disrupt polling, saying its protest are non-violent.

In the port of East London, dozens of blacks braved a large police presence to demand treatment in the whites-only section of a segregated hospital.

At least 40 were treated, and more were on their way, witnesses said. Police filmed patients entering the hospital and detained one activist but took no other action.

Blacks have presented themselves at several white hospitals in country as part of the defiance campaign.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok has said police will not hesitate to act against any person or organisation trying to disrupt the vote.

The movement denies Vlok's charges that it wants to disrupt polling, saying its protest are non-violent.

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Blacks have presented themselves at several white hospitals in country as part of the defiance campaign.

Seoul indict Kim

SEOUL (AP) — The government Friday indicted Kim Dae-Jung, leader of South Korea's largest opposition party, and two lawmakers on charges of failing to report a legislator's secret trip to communist North Korea.

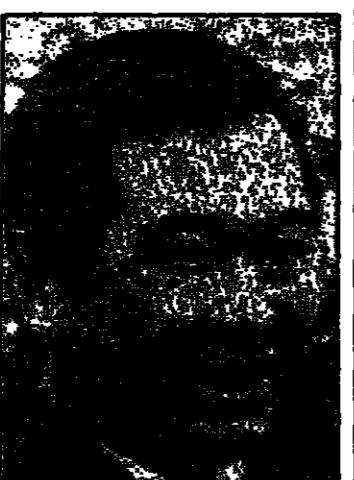
Street battles broke out later in the day between riot police and university students protesting the national security laws under which Kim and the others were charged.

Prosecutors issued a statement saying the three were accused of failing to report the visit of national assemblyman Sub Kyung-Won to North Korea in August 1988.

Kim, who ran for president in 1971 and 1987, denounced the indictments and said the charges against the three politicians were fabricated to discredit their Party for peace and democracy. He has accused the government of torturing Sub and forcing him to make a false confession.

"I have nothing to fear. I will squarely face trial," the 64-year-old opposition leader told supporters following his indictment.

Prosecutors said the three politicians will not be jailed pending



Kim Dae-Jung

trial. But if convicted, Kim, party floor leader Kim Won-Ki and Representative Lee Chul-Yong could receive a sentence of up to five years in prison.

About 400 students at Seoul's Hankuk University of Foreign Studies battled police for two hours with firebombs Friday to demand the release of jailed female student Im Su-Kyung and repeat of the national security laws. The laws form the basis of the charges against Kim and Im, who was jailed after she made a trip to the North as a symbolic gesture of the need to unify the two countries.

At Seoul National University, students shouting "overthrow (President) Roh Tae-Woo" battled riot police with iron bars, clubs, firebombs and rocks.

American 'green card' turns pink

WASHINGTON (AP) — "Green cards" verifying an alien's permanent resident status in the United States have been off-white since 1977. But they are being changed to pink to curtail a black market in the documents, an official said Thursday.

"You can buy a lousy reproduction" of the old Green Cards for \$5,000 to \$10,000, said Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) spokesman Verne Jervis.

"But people have been known to pay \$20,000," he said. "It depends on how much money the person has, how good the card is and how much the person is willing to pay."

"Some people pay an almost unending amount of money" for the cards, he said.

Card holders have all the rights and privileges of U.S. citizens, except that they cannot vote, may not leave the country for more than a year without losing permanent resident status and do not hold U.S. passports, he said.

The new cards will be phased in over time, said Jervis. Production of the new cards began Aug. 1 at the immigration card facility in Arlington, Texas. The \$1 million changeover of equipment will be complete within a few months.

The INS is processing the applications of 1.8 million people who applied for temporary resident status under the amnesty programme for those in the United States since the end of 1981.

an improved card, as far as duplicating it is concerned," he said. "It has some additional security features, such as the special ink" that helps combat forgeries.

"Another reason is that the equipment that we have been producing the card on for the last 12 years is due for a replacement anyway," Jervis said. "New technology has evolved during that time. As long as we have to get new equipment, we may as well take advantage of the new technology."

One feature of the new card is a stamped expiration date, he said. The laminated cards will be valid for 10 years.

The cards also have the individual's picture, fingerprint, name, date of birth and file number on the front and encoded information on the back, he said.

The INS will not undertake the daunting task of replacing 10 million cards already held by permanent resident aliens, said Jervis.

The new cards, due to their encoded information, will enable those who want replacements to apply by mail rather than in person, which had been required for the old cards, he said.

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The INS changed the cards for several reasons, he said. "One, it's

Panama opposition criticises OAS

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) — The opposition has criticised the Organisation of American States (OAS) for calling off a three-month diplomatic effort to ease military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega from power, while officials in Panama hailed it.

Opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara said Thursday the OAS had not faced up to the problem of Noriega as it had in an earlier resolution which condemned him for abusing elections.

The United States has tried unsuccessfully to oust Noriega since he was indicted on U.S. drug-trafficking charges in February 1988.

"Everybody knows that without General Noriega's departure any proposed solution for Panama is illusory," a downcast Endara told a news conference.

An OAS statement said its four-man mission would renew its efforts only at Panama's request. The declaration made no mention

of Noriega, whom the opposition and the United States say is blocking democracy in the country.

Noriega's spokesman said the declaration was a resounding success and a slap in the face for the United States because it expressed a firm, commitment to non-intervention.

The United States has tried unsuccessfully to oust Noriega since he was indicted on U.S. drug-trafficking charges in February 1988.

The leader of Panama's ruling party, meanwhile, said a provisional government would be named from Sept. 1 when a president elected in annulled May 1988 plans would have taken power.

After 12 hours of closed-door consultations, OAS foreign ministers said in their Thu-

rsday's statement that they were deeply concerned over the inability of an OAS mediating team to fulfil its mandate to bring about a democratic transfer of power in Panama.

Afterwards, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter credited the four OAS mediators with getting dialogue started among Panamanian officials and opposition leaders.

But the chief U.S. delegate, Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, said that until democracy is restored in Panama, each member of the 31-nation OAS has an obligation to "isolate this outlaw regime."

He said Noriega's alliance with cocaine traffickers is aggression "as surely as Adolf Hitler's invasion of Poland 50 years ago was aggression."

But the tough U.S. stance

against Noriega won few backers among the delegates who assembled in Washington for the fourth time in four months to tackle the Panamanian crisis. Many nations felt that OAS principles barring intervention in the internal affairs of member states ruled out an activist approach.

The U.S. government is weighing the possibility of tightening existing sanctions against Panama now that OAS efforts are at an apparent dead end, officials said.

The officials declined to specify what economic measures against Panama are under consideration. Last year, the administration of former President Ronald Reagan froze Panama's assets in the United States, withheld fees owed to Panama for Panama Canal operations and suspended certain trade benefits.

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Key Kaifu aide quits

TOKYO (Agencies) — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's right-hand man stepped down as chief government spokesman Friday after admitting an illicit affair and was replaced immediately by a woman.

"It is not good for me to stay in Kaifu's cabinet which aims at political reform and clean politics," Chief Cabinet Secretary Tohru Yamashita, 69, told reporters.

On Thursday, Yamashita confirmed a report in the weekly magazine Shukan Shincho that he paid three million yen (\$20,000) to a part-time bar girl with whom he had a three-year affair.

Kaifu's office announced that Yamashita would be replaced by Mayumi Moriyama, 61. Moriyama, Japan's first woman chief cabinet secretary, is a member of parliament and was head of the environmental agency.

Political analysts saw her appointment as an attempt by Kaifu to persuade electors his two-week-old government will clean up politics and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Kaifu's predecessor, Sosuke Uno, stepped down as prime minister after little over two months in office, dogged by allegations he paid a gesture for sex.

The LDP lost its parliamentary majority in the upper house last month for the first time since it was formed in 1955, as angry voters punished it for Uno's affairs, an unpopular sales tax, and the Recruit bribery scandal.

"It will be very interesting to see to what extent Moriyama will have influence," Robert Orr, political science professor at Temple University Japan, said.

"I think it was good choice to name her, especially when I think about the lower house election. It may help the party regain popularity among women voters," an LDP source said.

An election for the powerful lower house must be held by next July.

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E. Germans leave Budapest mission but crisis unresolved

BONN (R) — East German refugees have ended their occupation of Bonn's embassy in Budapest and begun new lives in the West but the two German states remain locked in a diplomatic stand-off.

West German officials, pleased at having arranged a safe passage Thursday for